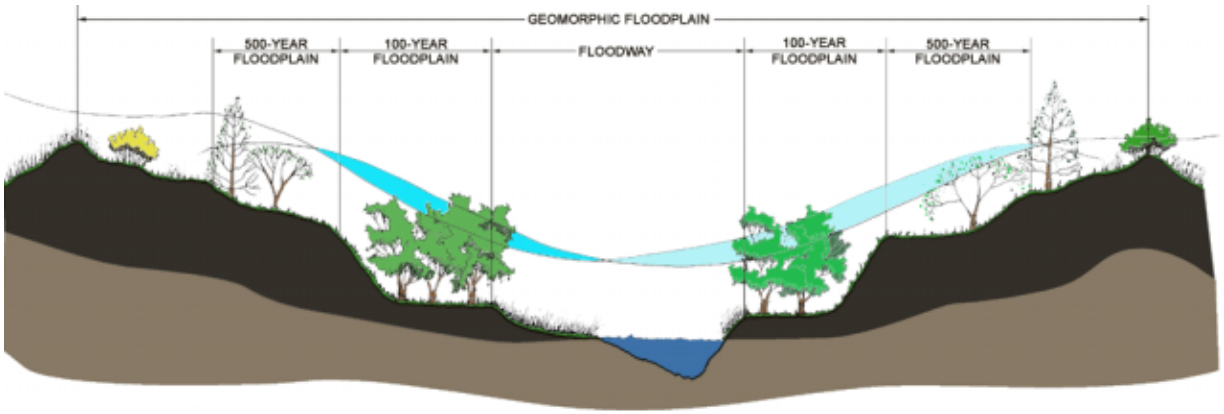
FLOODPLAIN

Any land that is susceptible to flooding or exhibit flood prone soils.

IMPORTANCE:

- Floodplain preservation and management enhances public health, safety and welfare
- The ability of a floodplain to store storm water benefits the remainder of the built-up environment
- The preservation and management of a floodplain can have multiple benefits
- Development within the floodplain carries risks, including the potential of increasing upstream or downstream flooding
- Proactive floodplain management can have a positive effect on flood insurance rates
- Floodplains are an integral component of a comprehensive storm water management system
- Floodplains can serve as boundaries and edges

- Floodplains are multifunctional and provide important ecological and cultural resources including flood storage, habitat, recreation, etc.
- Most of our natural woodlands are located within floodplains
- Floodplains, left naturally, can improve water quality
- Floodplains can serve as a linear network and provide important wildlife functions, including habitat and movement corridors
- Floodplains are compatible with parks, open space and recreational trail opportunities
- Floodplains are important visual features
- Floodplains can be attractive for building due to their level topography and other developable characteristics
- Alluvial soil, resulting from the process of flooding and deposition in the floodplain, is a highly productive and valuable resource for crop production
- Floodplain protection is more economical than flood control structures, channelization, increased flood insurance rates, and loss of life and property due to flooding



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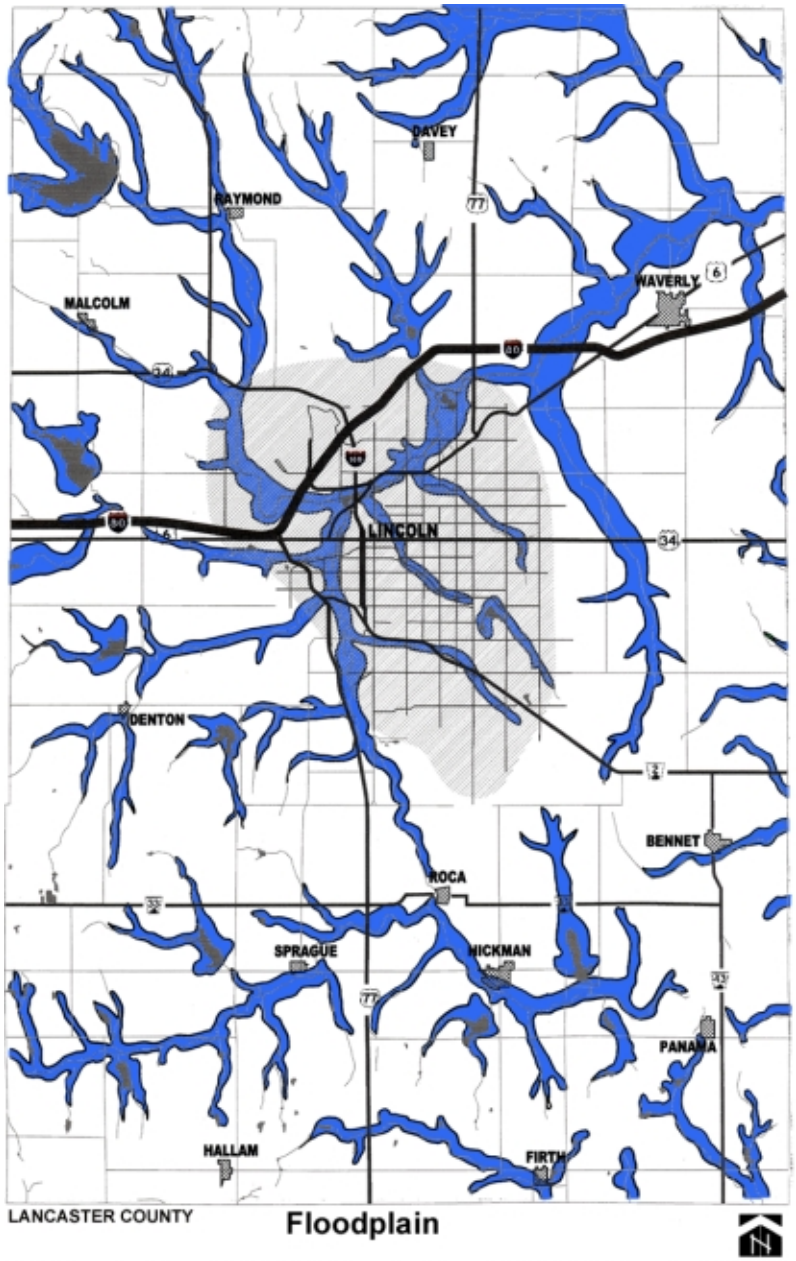

LEGEND

FLOODPLAIN

HUMAN IMPACT/THREAT:

- Floodplains are often filled in order to accommodate development
- Fill material that is used to modify floodplains is excavated from other areas that in turn are modified from their natural condition
- Vegetation is often removed when the floodplain is developed
- Preserved or managed floodplains are often affected by developments or modifications that occur upstream or downstream
- Ultimately, development in a floodplain can negatively affect human welfare as much as it does the natural environment
- Historically, many floodplain areas have been developed as industrial sites
- Floodplains may enlarge through urbanization and increased impervious surfaces

NEBRASKAland Magazine /
Nebraska Game and Parks Commission Photo

PLANNING IMPLICATIONS:

- Development in floodplains can create long-term problems
- Review of current floodplain management strategies should occur and recommendations should be developed to more effectively integrate natural floodplains in storm water management strategies
- Review and analysis of existing or future land use designations in and adjacent to floodplains should occur and recommendations should be made for land use classifications that are most compatible to be located within or near floodplains
- Review and analysis of existing development types should occur and recommendations should be made regarding project types that are most compatible to be located within or near floodplains
- Compliance with 100-year, 500-year, and floodway regulations should continue
- Floodplain preservation is generally more economical than engineered flood protection facilities
- The public should be educated on the economics of floodplain protection
- The long-term cumulative impact of development in the floodplain should be evaluated, and floodplains should be managed so that the action of one property owner does not adversely impact the flooding risks for other properties
- Floodplains should be managed to enhance their natural and beneficial functions, including flood storage, habitat, recreation and water quality benefits